This Response is being submitted to the Office Action of October 6, 2003.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-24 have been previously cancelled.

25. (Previously Amended) A process for the preparation of a biological material for the treatment of ulcers, lesions and diverticula of the digestive and gastrointestinal apparatus, which comprises growing intestinal cells optionally together with fibroblasts, mesenchimal cells, mature cells and/or epithelial cells on a matrix selected from the group consisting of a non-woven fabric and a perforated membrane consisting essentially of at least one hyaluronic acid or a derivative thereof.

26. (Previously Added) The process according to claim 25, wherein said hyaluronic acid derivatives are hyaluronic acid esters wherein part or all of the carboxy functions are esterified with alcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic, heterocyclic series.

27. (Previously Added) The process according to claim 25, wherein said hyaluronic acid derivatives are the cross-linked esters of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with the alcoholic functions of the same polysaccharide chain or other chains.

28. (Previously Added) The process according to claim 25, wherein said hyaluronic acid derivatives are the cross-linked compounds of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with polyalcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic, heterocyclic series, generating cross-linking by means of spacer chains.

29. (Previously Added) The process according to claim 25, wherein said hyaluronic acid derivatives are hemiesters of succinic acid or heavy metal salts of the hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid or partial or total esters of hyaluronic acid.

30. (Previously Added) The process according to claim 25, wherein said hyaluronic acid derivatives are O-sulphated or N-sulphated hyaluronic acid derivatives.

31. (Previously Added) The process according to claim 25, wherein said hyaluronic acid derivatives are hyaluronic acid amides wherein part or all the free carboxylic groups of hyaluronic acid are reacted with a primary or a secondary amine chosen from the group consisting of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic or heterocyclic amine, that can optionally be a pharmaceutically active substance.

32. (Previously Added) The process according to claim 25, wherein said hyaluronic acid derivatives are amides wherein a deacylated amino group of hyaluronic acid or of a hyaluronic acid ester wherein part or all of the carboxy functions are esterified with an alcohol selected from the group consisting of aliphatic, aromatic arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic and heterocyclic series is reacted with an acid selected from the group consisting of aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic and cycloaliphatic acid, that can optionally be a pharmaceutically active substance.

33. (Previously Cancelled)

34. (Previously Amended) A biological material comprising:

a) intestinal cells optionally together with fibroblasts, mesenchimal cells, mature cells and/or epithelial cells;

b) a matrix selected from the group consisting of a non woven fabric and a perforated membrane consisting essentially of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative as defined in claim 26.

35. (Previously Added) The process according to claim 25, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivatives are amides wherein a deacylated amino group of hyaluronic acid or of a cross-linked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with the alcoholic functions of the same polysaccharide chain or other chains, is reacted with an acid selected from the group consisting of aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic and cycloaliphatic acids, that optionally can be a pharmaceutically active substance.

36. (Previously Added) The process according to claim 25, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivatives are amides wherein a deacylated amino group of hyaluronic acid or of a cross-linked compound of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with polyalcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic and cycloaliphatic, and heterocyclic series, generating cross-linking by means of spacer chains, is reacted with an acid selected from the group consisting of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic and cycloaliphatic acids, that optionally can be a pharmaceutically active substance.

37. (Previously Added) The process according to claim 25, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivatives are amides wherein a deacylated amino group of hyaluronic acid or fo a hemiester of succinic acid or heavy metal salts of the hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid or partial or total esters of hyaluronic acid, is reacted with an acid selected from the group consisting of aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic and cycloaliphatic acids, that optionally can be a pharmaceutically active substance.

38. (Previously Added) The process according to claim 25, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivatives are amides wherein a deacylated amino group of hyaluronic acid or of a O-sulphated or N-sulphated hyaluronic acid derivative, is reacted with an acid selected from the group consisting of aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic and cycloaliphatic acids that optionally can be a pharmaceutically active substance.

39. (Previously Amended) A biological material comprising:

(a) intestinal cells optionally together with fibroblast, mesenchimal cells, mature cells and/or epithelial cells;

(b) a matrix selected from the group consisting of a non woven fabric and a perforated membrane consisting essentially of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative as defined in claim 27.

40. (Prevously Amended) A biological material comprising:

(a) intestinal cells optionally together with fibroblast, mesenchimal cells, mature cells and/or epithelial cells;

(b) a matrix selected from the group consisting of a non woven fabric and a perforated membrane consisting essentially of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative as defined in claim 28.

41. (Previously Amended) A biological material comprising:

(a) intestinal cells optionally together with fibroblast, mesenchimal cells, mature cells and/or epithelial cells;

(b) a matrix selected from the group consisting of a non woven fabric and a perforated membrane consisting essentially of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative as defined in claim 29.

42. (Previously Amended) A biological material comprising:

(a) intestinal cells optionally together with fibroblast, mesenchimal cells, mature cells and/or epithelial cells;

(b) a matrix selected from the group consisting of a non woven fabric and a perforated membrane consisting essentially of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative as defined in claim 30.

43. (Previously Amended) A biological material comprising:

(a) intestinal cells optionally together with fibroblast, mesenchimal cells, mature cells and/or epithelial cells;

(b) a matrix selected from the group consisting of a non woven fabric and a perforated membrane consisting essentially of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative as defined in claim 31.

44. (Previously Amended) A biological material comprising:

(a) intestinal cells optionally together with fibroblast, mesenchimal cells, mature cells and/or epithelial cells;

(b) a matrix selected from the group consisting of a non woven fabric and a perforated membrane consisting essentially of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative as defined in claim 32.